

POISON GAS HALTS MINE RESCUE EFFORT

But Work Will Be Continued to Find Bodies of 14 Still in Shaft at Moweaqua, Ill.

MOWEAQUA, Ill., Dec. 27 (AP).—Poison gas halted rescue efforts at the Moweaqua coal mine tonight, where fourteen men still are entombed.

About 9:30 P. M., squads burrowing through débris in the north wing of the T-shaped mine were forced back. John G. Millhouse, director of the squads, and two experts immediately went down for an investigation.

"The gas may delay efforts to reach the victims for several hours," Mr. Millhouse said. "But for no reason will we abandon the search."

Mr. Millhouse said there was not a remote chance that any of the fourteen were still alive in the north wing and that it was folly to subject rescue squads to unnecessary risk. The tunnels and shafts will be ventilated, he said, before operations are resumed to get at the bodies.

Friends filled the streets today as many of the forty known victims of Saturday's explosion in the mine were buried.

The fortieth body, that of Tom Jackson, was found early in the day. It was Jackson's duty to throw the power switch in the mine, which may have caused a spark that set off gas in the tunnels Saturday morning. He was to have played Santa Claus in the town's Christmas celebration for the children.

TWO TAKEN AFTER HOLD-UP.

**Policeman in Brooklyn Chase Fires
Shots at Fleeing Bandits.**

Patrolman Andrew Polchow of Brooklyn captured two hold-up men yesterday as they were fleeing after having attempted to rob three officials of the Fler Oil Service, Inc., in the company's offices at 500 Gardner Avenue, Brooklyn.

While one bandit covered their intended victims with a pistol, the second went through the pockets of Fred Fler, treasurer of the company, taking \$35 in cash, a diamond ring and a watch. Then they observed the patrolman on the sidewalk outside and ran from the place. Polchow gave chase, fired two warning shots and finally caught the robbers. They gave their names as John McDermott, 27 years old, of 518 Leonard Street, Brooklyn, and Joseph Kielty, 27, of the Edwards Hotel, Manhattan, apparently a false address.

A man suspected of having acted as a "lookout" in the hold-up was arrested when he went to the Herbert Street police station to arrange bail for the accused men. He gave his name as John Kraig, 26, of 142-27 120th Avenue, Baisley Park, Queens. After questioning by Detectives Edge and Dixon he was held on a charge of burglary.

11 LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR.

**Three Less Than in 1931—All but
Two of Victims Were Negroes.**

There have been eleven lynchings in the United States this year, as compared with fourteen in 1931, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday. The 1932 lynchings claimed two white victims, the others having been Negroes.

Florida had two lynchings. Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia had one each. In all cases the mobs either hanged or shot their victims, and in the case of Henry Woods in Florida the body was also burned.

The offenses charged to the victims included a quarrel with an employer, murder, theft of a \$10 note and the wounding of a deputy sheriff, quarrel over pay resulting in shooting, dynamiting a store and insulting white women.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, yesterday, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."